

**From:** Taucher, Helen (DPH)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 27, 2010 10:55 AM  
**To:** Hanchett, James (DPH)  
**Subject:** RE: hepatitis B immune status

with respect to your old records. I found the records from Judy indicating the dates of your hep B immunizations  
Helen

Helen Crean Taucher DNP MPH RN  
Regional Immunization Nurse - Western Region  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Infectious Disease Prevention, Response and Services  
413-545-6604

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**From:** Hanchett, James (DPH)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 27, 2010 10:48 AM  
**To:** Taucher, Helen (DPH)  
**Subject:** FW: hepatitis B immune status

Hi Helen,

I received this email today and I don't know what to make of it. I had 3 Hep B shots in 1995 and 2 Hep A shots in 2005. Do I need more shots?  
Thanks,

Jim

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**From:** Nawn, Kathleen (DPH)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 24, 2010 3:03 PM  
**To:** Hanchett, James (DPH)  
**Cc:** Han, Linda (DPH)  
**Subject:** hepatitis B immune status

On behalf of Dr. Linda Han,

We are in the process of reviewing our hepatitis B virus (HBV) vaccination records in order to follow up with laboratory staff

1. who are at risk for HBV exposure (those with direct contact with human blood, blood products (e.g., serum), body fluids, infected tissues or secretions, or materials possibly contaminated by blood or blood products) and
2. who have no documentation of a positive post-vaccination HBV surface antibody titer test.

A post-vaccination HBV antibody titer is important because it is the only way to confirm an adequate immune response to the HBV vaccine, and is valuable for determining treatment in the event of a HBV exposure. If post-vaccination antibody is present, the individual is considered to be immune to HBV. If antibody is absent, a fourth vaccination will be offered (and possibly a fifth and sixth vaccination dose if the individual remains antibody-negative after the 4<sup>th</sup> dose). If the antibodies remain absent after 2 complete vaccination series, the individual is considered to be susceptible to HBV infection and would need to be considered for additional treatment in the event of exposure to potentially infectious material.

Your DPH HBV vaccination records are **incomplete** as indicated below:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no record of post-vaccination HBV surface antibody titer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no record of HBV vaccination in the past
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no HBV vaccination consent/decline form

The following is requested:

1. Please complete the attached form (indicating whether you consent to vaccination or decline vaccination) and return to Kathleen Nawn, Room 454, MDPH State Laboratory Institute, 305 South St, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
[Kathleen.nawn@state.ma.us](mailto:Kathleen.nawn@state.ma.us) or (617) 983-6345.

2. If you have:  
never been vaccinated for HBV or  
have been vaccinated (or think you were vaccinated) for HBV in the past, but have not had testing for HBV surface antibody, Dr.Han can make arrangements for you to have these services done at the MDPH office in Amherst. [Linda.han@state.ma.us](mailto:Linda.han@state.ma.us) or (617) 983-4362

If you have had HBV surface antibody testing in the past, please submit test documentation (such as lab test report or immunization record with testing results) to Kathleen Nawn, Room 454, MDPH State Laboratory Institute, 305 South St, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
[Kathleen.nawn@state.ma.us](mailto:Kathleen.nawn@state.ma.us) or (617) 983-6345.

Thanks,  
Linda

Linda Han, MD, MPH  
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Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
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